Ku-band project is to provide TV coverage to areas, not covered by terrestrial transmission.

(c) Test transmission in Ku-band with a bouquet of 30 TV channels (17 DD channels & 13 private free-to-air channels) and 12 Radio (AIR) channels has already commenced. It is possible to receive KU band signals in the entire country, except andaman & Nicobar Island with the help of a Ku-band receiver system. It is to be formally launched.

Vulgarity on Cable TV and print media

389. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have devised any action plan or code of conduct for checking vulgarity on cable TV network and print media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 prescribe that no programme shall be carried through Cable TV Network, provided it conforms to the Programme and Advertisement Codes as defined in the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. The Programme and Advertisement Codes cited, *inter alia*, prohibit vulgarity through cable T.V. network. The Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the said Act to look into the violations of the Codes. Cognizance of any violations of the Codes is taken either *suo-moto* or on receipt of specific complaints by the Committee. Besides, any authorized officer under the aforesaid Act is empowered to prohibit any cable operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel if it is not in conformity with the prescribed codes. A meeting is also proposed to be held shortly with stakeholders including women organizations, educations, consumer organisation with broadcasters, cable operators organisation etc., so that the matter can be sensitized on these issues.

As regards print media, the Press in India is free from Government control. In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the Press, the Government does not interfere with its functioning. However, the Press Council of India is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with the twin object of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and

news agencies in India. The Council has built "Norms of Journalistic Conduct", which, *inter-alia*, provide for obsenity and vulgarity to be eschewed and cover principles and ethics with regard to journalism.

Film on Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narayan

†390. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that film on Jaiprakash Narayan by Shri Prakash Jha was deliberately withheld for screening on Doordarshan on October 11 which happens to be the birthday of Jaiprakash Narayanji;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the status of this film and whether Government have finally decided its screening after making certain cuts therefrom and if so, the precise reasons for making such cuts?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The film was telecast over Doordarshan's National Channel on 4th December, 2004 at 9.30 p.m. in the prime time film slot. Certain changes, mostly factual, were made through discussions between Doordarshan and the Commissioned Producer. These include insertion of credit caption of Ministry of Culture, correction of map of undivided India, editing of some audio bytes, editing of portrayal of physical torture in Lahore Jail, colour correction of British flag shown in Hazaribagh Jail and insertion of designations of interviewees.

FM radio stations

391. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has drawn up an ambitious road map to set up 400 FM radio stations in the private sector throughout the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.